

Torrance, California  
November 22, 1949

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 22nd, at 8:06 p.m., in the Council Chamber of the City Hall, Mayor Sherfey presiding. Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those responding being: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Powell and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMAN: Jackson. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Smith.

All persons present participated in the salute to our Flag.

As first order of business, Councilman Powell moved that minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 9th and of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of November 18th be approved as read. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following correspondence:

Letter from Mrs. R. C. Brown, 1004 Crenshaw Blvd., reporting broken curbing. Councilman Drale moved the matter be referred to the City Engineer for immediate attention. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Letter from the Board of Education re the yearly recreation program and the selection of a Director of Recreation. Councilman Haggard moved the letter be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Letter from the Hi-Ho Club requesting amendment of the ordinance prohibiting Sunday dancing to permit dancing Saturday night until 1:30 a.m. Sunday, rather than midnight. Councilman Haggard moved the matter be referred to the City Attorney for an opinion next meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Request from the Hollywood Riviera Sportsmen's Club for permission to sell Christmas trees near the Standard Oil Station at Highway 101 and Hollywood Palos Verdes Parkway from December 9th to 25th.

Request on behalf of Seaside Ranchos Senior Scouts to sell Christmas trees, by order, from the residence of one of the Scouts.

As to both requests, Councilman Powell moved that they, together with any future similar requests be referred to the City Manager for action at his discretion regarding license and bond. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Letter from Walteria Civic Organization requesting aid in obtaining telephone service. Councilman Powell moved the Clerk answer the letter advising the organization that additional service will be available after January 15th. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Letter from Branch 2207 of Nat'l Ass'n of Letter Carriers reporting streets in North Torrance needing repair. Councilman Drale moved the matter be referred to City Engineer for immediate attention. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Letter from So. Calif. Edison Co. re commercial light meter serving the Pueblo Recreation Center which had not been registering, and submitting additional invoice of \$38.41. Councilman Drale moved further investigation be made by the City Manager and City Attorney, report to be submitted next meeting, as to the increase. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Letter from Wm. S. Mooney, of Hermosa Beach, suggesting change in name of 190th Street, as it changes name 4 times between the ocean and its termination. Councilman Haggard moved the matter be referred to the Traffic Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Letter from Torrance Council of P.T.A., addressed to Chief Stroh, re operation of cigarette vending machines and pin-ball machines by minors. Councilman Powell moved the Council go on record as concurring with the sentiments expressed in the communication and that the Chief of Police take the steps outlined in the letter. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Letter from Civil Service Board recommending one year's residence requirement be added to future bulletins for "Fireman" and "Police Officer". On advice of City Attorney that the Ordinance would have to be amended, Councilman Drale moved that Ordinance No. 249 be amended to include one year's residence as a requirement for police and fire departments. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Civil Service Board transmitting recommendation of Mr. Downing that Ordinances 249 and 326 be repealed and new Civil Service Ordinance drawn. Councilman Powell moved that the communication be filed as a matter of record as such an ordinance was already under consideration. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

At 8:30 p.m. Councilman Jackson took his chair.

Letter from Mrs. Martha Jane Walker, of 24208 Ocean Ave., Walteria, requesting a business license to operate a nursery school; request urgent as area being rezoned by the Council which would not permit such operation if applied for after passage of the ordinance. Councilman Drale moved the request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Memo from Recreation Commission recommending Council subsidize the Torrance Basketball League for the cost of referee's fees. Councilman Powell moved the matter be taken under consideration by the Council. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Memo from Recreation Commission recommending request of Rev. Sande for use of the Auditorium January 18th to 23rd be denied because of previous commitments. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation and that Rev. Sande be advised the Auditorium would be available on January 18, 19, 20 and 22nd.

Memo from Recreation Commission recommending rejection of recreation program for the El Nido District as submitted by the County. Councilman Powell moved the communication be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

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Memo from Recreation Commission recommending community Christmas parties be subsidized by the Council. Councilman Powell moved the matter be delayed until the Finance Committee could go over the matter. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Letter from Torrance Lions Club requesting use of the Auditorium December 22nd for annual Christmas Party sponsored by City Firemen and service organizations. Councilman Haggard moved request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried.

Petition signed by 29 City employees requesting that City employees be issued passes on the bus line. Councilman Haggard moved request be denied. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NAYS: COUNCILMAN: Drale. Councilman Powell moved Transportation Commission make a study, immediately, regarding free passes now in effect. Following discussion, Councilman Haggard seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Communication from Metropolitan Water District re tax rate to be fixed for the fiscal year 1950-1951 and payment thereof. Councilman Drale moved that the Metropolitan Water District be notified that the City of Torrance does not elect to pay out of its municipal funds all or any portion of the amount of the Metropolitan Water District Tax for the fiscal year 1950-1951. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read the following recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

#### APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the installation of heating system in the office of the City Attorney, the sum of \$316.61.
2. For refund to Torrance Plumbing Company on Sewer Permit No. 2938, in the amount of \$22.50, which was a duplicate of Sewer Permit No. 2728.
3. That fire hydrants be authorized on Western Avenue north of 182nd Street and near 190th Street, in accordance with the recommendation of the Fire Chief.

Councilman Jackson moved the Council concur in the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### MISCELLANEOUS:

1. That the bid of Two Macks Electric, for payment to the City of \$120.50 for the right to remove abandoned power and telephone lines at the Torrance Municipal Airport, be accepted.

Councilman Powell moved for concurrence in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### TRAFFIC CONTROL:

1. That the City Attorney be authorized to prepare the necessary ordinance to establish the following regulatory signs in accordance with the recommendations of the Traffic Commission:
  - a. Stop Signs: That Stop signs be erected on the following streets at Western Avenue: Torrance Boulevard, 213th Street, 223rd Street, Plaza del Amo, 228th Street and Sepulveda Boulevard.
  - b. That 35-miles per hour be established on Sepulveda Boulevard from Narbonne Avenue to the east City Limits line.

Councilman Jackson moved for concurrence with the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read City Manager Stevens' report on matters which had been referred to him for recommendation:

- "1. Recommendation of Planning Commission that Fern Avenue Park be acquired for recreational purposes.

"Because of its topographical location and due to the fact that Fern Avenue Park serves as a settling basin for storm water run-off from the surrounding land, the location will not be suitable for building sites for school or residential development until a suitable drainage system is installed.

"I believe that the so-called Fern Avenue Park area should be retained for park and playground purposes and that if it is not possible to remain so under the ownership of the School District, it should be acquired by the City for such purposes."

Councilman Powell moved the matter be filed as a matter of record until such time as the recommendation is possible. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

- "2. Proposal of Mathews Advertising Company to place trash receptacles on City streets.

"I have met with Mr. Charles M. Searles of the above company to discuss their proposal. The company has not placed any receptacles in Southern California at this time, but are currently working on a design and will present data when available. Their plan is to furnish the containers to the City at no cost. Revenues will be raised by advertising on the sides of the containers.

Councilman Powell moved the matter be filed for record until such time as said details are presented. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

- "3. Request of Peter Billar, 23929 Ocean Avenue and Fred and John Iwata, 23870 Ocean Avenue for sewer services.

"The above property owners seek aid in providing a sewer line to serve the north portion of their property. The sewer line recently installed under the WALTERIA District Project will serve only the southern sections of their property. The other portion of the property was not in the assessment district; therefore a line was not provided. I am gathering additional engineering data to determine if the line can be extended northerly to provide the service requested. The cost of such a line will have to be borne by the property owners."

Following a short discussion, Councilman Jackson moved action be deferred until a report could be received from the City Engineer, to be ready for the next Regular Meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

- "4. Request of Planning Commission Committee for payment of \$10.00 per meeting to each member of the Commission, to cover expenses in conducting Commission affairs.

"No provision was made in the 1949-50 Planning Commission Budget for compensation to Commission members. An item covering dues, publications and meetings, in the amount of \$300.00, was included in the Budget. To date \$39.20 of this amount has been expended. Transportation charges on a mileage basis, incurred in making investigations of matters before the Commission, should be borne by the City. Funds from the Unappropriated Reserve could be transferred to the Commission Budget for this purpose."

Councilman Haggard moved that the request be denied but, if the City car furnished the Secretary of the Planning Commission was

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unavailable for such investigations, that mileage be allowed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read the following recommendations from the Planning Commission:

1. TRACT MAP NO. 14475 (TENTATIVE AND FINAL): This map was presented for Mr. K. Sande Senness, consists of 44 lots and is located south of Newton Street.

The Planning Commission recommends approval, subject to the change in name of Flower Street, as there is already a Flower Street in another section of the City of Torrance; also subject to minor engineering changes and the posting of the necessary bonds.

Councilman Jackson moved for concurrence with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 14667: This map was presented for the Horn Building Company, consists of 100 lots and is located on the southeast corner of 174th Street and Yukon Avenue.

"The Commission recommends approval of this map."

Councilman Drale moved the Council concur with the recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. FINAL TRACT MAPS NOS. 16099 AND 16195: These maps were presented for C. F. Steinen and J. Horn. No. 16099 consists of 305 lots and is located between 186th and 190th Streets; No. 16195 consists of 70 lots and is located between 185th Place and 190th Street; both tracts being situated between Crenshaw Boulevard and Fern Avenue.

Considerable discussion was held on the name of Fern and Date Avenues being used in this tract, due to the division caused by the General Petroleum properties.

The Planning Commission recommends approval of these maps, subject to the street names of Date and Fern Avenues being changed to conform to the streets to the north, namely Delia and Falda Avenues; also subject to minor engineering changes and the posting of the necessary bonds.

Councilman Haggard moved that the matter be delayed until the City Manager could attempt to have a playground set aside and until more study could be given to the frontage on Crenshaw Boulevard. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

4. SPECIAL REQUEST: The request of Mura E. Sandstrom for permission to construct a garage at 1507 Madrid Avenue on an existing slab, which is one foot from the property line, was recommended for approval.

Councilman Jackson moved for concurrence with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

5. CASE NO. 179: Proposed Change of Zone (Land Use Plan) of certain portions of the North Torrance area, generally described as follows: That portion of the City of Torrance bordered on the East by the City boundary line; on the West by a line approximately 150 feet west of Crenshaw Boulevard; on the North by the City boundary line and on the South by a line approximately 150 feet south of 190th Street.

Two official public hearings have been held before the Planning Commission and the ordinance further requires that one additional public hearing be held before your honorable body. This hearing cannot legally be held before December 13, 1949, in order to comply with the legal notice requirements.



Councilman Powell moved for concurrence with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously. Mayor Sherfey then scheduled the public hearing for 8:00 p.m. on December 13, 1949.

Clerk Bartlett read a letter from the County Counsel enclosing Agreement for Library Service for the fiscal year 1949-50. Councilman Haggard moved the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the Agreement. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO MAKE ALLOCATION OF "AID TO CITIES" (GASOLINE TAX FUNDS) FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS AS HEREINAFTER SET FORTH.

Councilman Jackson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2023. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 490

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE VACATING A CERTAIN ALLEY IN TRACT NO. 8198.

Councilman Jackson moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Jackson then moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 490 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 483

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LICENSING AND CARRYING ON OF CERTAIN PROFESSIONS, TRADES, CALLINGS AND OCCUPATIONS WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE; REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 381 AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS THEREOF IN CONFLICT HERewith; ESTABLISHING FEES FOR BUSINESSES; AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.

Councilman Drale moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale then moved for the adoption of urgency Ordinance No. 483 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DEFINING CERTAIN WORDS AND PHRASES USED IN BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE NO. 483 AND DESCRIBING CERTAIN BUSINESSES LICENSED UNDER SAID ORDINANCE NO. 483, AND REGULATIONS THEREOF.

Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2014. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 9:10 p.m., Councilman Powell moved the Mayor declare a 10-minute recess while the Finance Committee discussed the subsidizing of Christmas parties. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously. Meeting reconvened at 9:37 p.m.

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Councilman Powell moved that the Council subsidize the Christmas parties recommended by the Recreation Commission in the following amounts: Walteria - \$100, Seaside Ranchos and Hollywood Riviera \$100, North Torrance (including West Torrance) - \$200, downtown Torrance - \$200. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Manager Stevens advised that Mr. Bud Lee, Chairman of the Recreation Commission, had received a letter requesting his presence at the Governor's Conference on Employment to be held in Sacramento on December 5th and 6th. Councilman Powell moved that Mr. Lee represent Torrance at the meeting, with appropriate expenses paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Attorney Smith introduced, and Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 491

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316,  
RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED  
IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 178.

Councilman Powell moved that further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell then moved for the adoption of the Ordinance at its first reading, reminding the audience that previous action by the Council excepts Lots 17, 18, 19 and 20. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Sherfey asked City Manager Stevens for his recommendations on the driveway matters held over from the last meeting. As to Mr. Rippey's requests for a 96' and a 40' driveway, Mr. Stevens recommended the requests be denied. Councilman Powell moved for concurrence with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried.

As to the Zamperini request for a 60' driveway, Mr. Stevens recommended the request be denied and suggested two 24' driveways. Councilman Powell moved for concurrence with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried.

Mr. Stevens recommended that the Council adopt the proposed classification and salary schedule for Director of Recreation. So moved by Councilman Powell and seconded by Councilman Jackson. Following some discussion as to method of selecting a Director, motion carried.

Councilman Drale reported on the loss on certain runs of the Bus Department and moved that a special meeting of the Transportation Committee, Council and Superintendent of the Bus Department be called. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried. Due to absence from the City of Mr. Chamberlain, meeting was suggested for next Tuesday.

Councilman Drale reported that the street in front of the Pacific Electric shop is badly in need of repair. He also urged the audience to report any other streets or curbs needing repair to the City Engineer.

Councilman Haggard moved that the City Attorney be instructed to draw an ordinance prohibiting self-service gas stations in the City of Torrance. Following some discussion, he amended his motion by adding the following - "unless there is an attendant for each 4 pumps". Motion, seconded by Mayor Sherfey, carried.

Councilman Haggard had the City Clerk read an opinion which he had requested from the City Attorney relative to collective bargaining on behalf of City Employees. Following the reading, he moved the letter be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Attorney start immediately with the codification of the City's ordinances and that any personnel assistance necessary be obtained through Mr. Stevens or the Personnel Officer, matter to be completed within 90 days. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Powell brought up the subject of a bus depot in the City, advising the Council had 3 sets of plans under consideration, and urged action be taken. Lengthy discussion followed between members of the Council, the City Attorney, and the 3 parties interested -- Mr. Allen, Mr. Bowdoin and Mr. Gotts. Mrs. R. C. Brown urged that the Council place the depot as near the shopping center as possible rather than further away than its present location. Councilman Haggard moved that the bus station be moved from its present location, on January 1, 1950, to the location offered by Mr. Gotts on the same terms under which Mr. Prince is now operating. Councilman Drale insisted that the award should not be made until a contract could be prepared to protect both sides as no man would want to remodel his quarters on just a month to month basis. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, and further discussion ensued resulting in the withdrawal of the motion and its second. City Manager Stevens recommended action be delayed for two weeks to allow time for advertising and preparing of a contract so that both sides would know what the other proposed to do. Councilman Powell moved that the advertising be published in the Torrance Herald and that "bids" be called for to be opened December 6th and award made at that time. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Powell moved that the Mayor appoint a committee to see what could be done about the Torrance-Redondo boundary line which bisects 23 parcels of land in the Hollywood Riviera area. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried and the Mayor appointed the City Planning Commission to work with Redondo and make a report to the Council as soon as possible.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Attorney prepare a written opinion re the establishing of a minimum residential building area of 750 square feet. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.

Jack Baldwin, of the Torrance Herald, suggested that in accepting future Tentative and Final Maps, the City urge the developers to provide street signs. Councilman Jackson moved the City Attorney draw up such an ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried.

Mr. Slonecker, of Walteria, asked if sewer assessments could be paid before it goes to bond and he was advised payments could be made to the City Clerk upon receipt of his bill.

Councilman Jackson moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 10:55 p.m., Councilman Jackson moved meeting be adjourned to December 6th. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

*A. H. Bartholomew*  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

*W. H. Sharkey Jr.*  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

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